

## NEW RECORDS IN ASTERACEAE FOR ALABAMA AND ARKANSAS

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Continuing study of Asteraceae brings to light additions to the Arkansas and Alabama floras.

***Pluchea yucatanensis*** Nesom. When first described (Nesom 1989), *P. yucatanensis* was known in the USA from only one collection in Hancock Co., Mississippi. It is now recorded from four contiguous counties in Alabama (first report here) and Mississippi and appears to be an established element of the flora in that area of the Gulf Coast. Its larger range is in Central America (Belize) and Mexico (Veracruz, Campeche, and Quintana Roo).

Voucher specimens. **ALABAMA. Mobile Co.:** just N of jct. Co. Rd 59 and Ala. Hwy 188, sandy edge of salt marsh in slash pine, 15 Jul 1969, *Kral* 35624 (VDB). **MISSISSIPPI. Hancock Co.:** S of Kiln, sandy area along Jordan River, coastal flatwoods, 26 Aug 1966, *Jones* 9575 (NCU); S of Kiln, sandy, low area along Jordan River, edge of mixed woods with *Serenoa*, *Sabal*, *Nyssa*, *Taxodium*, 30 May 1967, *Jones* 12656 (TEX); S of Kiln, low sandy soil along Jordan River, 6 Jul 1967, *Jones* 14155 (NCU). **Harrison Co.:** SW of Wool Market, low sandy soil along Biloxi River, R 10W T 7S Sec 8, 23 Jul 1967, *Jones* 14818 (GH). **Jackson Co.:** Ocean Springs P.O., low wet areas, 2 Jul 1952, *Demaree* 32262 (BRIT-SMU, GH); E of Ocean Springs, near borrow pit on Hwy 90, 25 Jul 1966, *Deramus* 548 (VDB); Ocean Springs, 30 Jul 1896, *Pollard* 1129 (GH).

*Pluchea yucatanensis* is similar in habit and general appearance to *P. foetida* (L.) DC. and *P. rosea* Godfrey and has been misidentified as both. The rose-tinted phyllaries and florets are more similar to *P. rosea*, but the glabrous, slightly thickened, shiny leaves and glabrous phyllaries are unambiguous recognition characters for *P. yucatanensis*.

***Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum*** (L.) Hilliard & Burt. A recent report expanded the known range of this species into Texas and New Mexico (Nesom 2001). It probably should be expected in Oklahoma and other states eastward. It is already documented in Florida by many collections.

Voucher specimen. **ARKANSAS. Nevada Co.:** flat clear-cut woods along Co. Rd 221 E of Co. Rd 37, N of Missionary Grove Baptist Church, N of Prescott, 19 Aug 1999, *Thomas and Young* 162,394 (TEX).

***Symphotrichum puniceum*** (L.) A. & D. Löve var. ***scabricaule*** (Shinners) Nesom. Variety *scabricaule* previously has been recorded from localities in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi (Nesom 1997).

Voucher specimen. **ALABAMA. Chambers Co.:** 1.9 mi NW of Penton, seepage area in granite outcrop area, 17 Oct 1969, *Kral* 37887 (BRIT, VDB-5 sheets).



The occurrence of *Symphyotrichum puniceum* in Alabama was documented by Mohr (1901), who noted that the only collection was by F.S. Earle from Auburn in Lee County in the east-central section of the state (immediately adjacent to Chambers County). Mohr noted that the plants grew in “swampy borders of woods” in “metamorphic hills” of the “mountain region.” Both Alabama localities are at the southwestern extreme of the southward Appalachian extension of the range of *S. puniceum* through Georgia. Some of the distinctly montane Georgia populations are typical in morphology (var. *puniceum*) while others (e.g., Haralson Co., Kral 77182-VDB) show features of var. *scabricaule*, especially in reduction of the uppermost leaves. Prior to this report, var. *scabricaule* was considered a Gulf coastal plain endemic (Nesom 1997). Chambers and Lee counties are slightly north of the coastal plain (as marked by the boundary between Cretaceous and older Paleozoic formations, e.g., see Sorrie & Weakley 2001). Lee County, however, is included in four of the geographic patterns of coastal plain endemism shown Sorrie and Weakley.

Kartesz (1999) includes *Symphyotrichum puniceum* for Alabama as var. *puniceum*, but the morphology of the plants suggests that identification as var. *scabricaule* is more appropriate. The lower leaf surfaces are about the same color as the upper surfaces, without a reticulum of dark veins, the main veins of the upper leaf surfaces are shallowly impressed, giving a slightly rugose appearance, and the leaves of the capitulescence are markedly reduced in size compared to the lower.

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